

## **Patent Claims**

1. A plate conveyor having identical plates that are supported by a  
5 sprocket chain and that in the conveying direction of the plate  
conveyor have their bases, as well as vertically extending side  
edges thereof, reciprocally overlap, whereby the sprocket chain  
is composed of two chain strands that are disposed parallel to  
one another and are each formed by a sequence of inner link  
members and outer link members, wherein facing ones of the  
10 inner link members and outer link members are connected by  
respective common link pins that extends through associated  
openings of the link members, and wherein the plates of the  
plate conveyor are secured to the successive inner link  
members and outer link members of at least one of the two  
15 chain strands, characterized in that for the manufacture of an  
endless conveying strand by connecting the terminal link  
segments (30, 32) of at least two preassembled of the plate  
conveyor, the first terminal link segment (30) of the portion is  
comprised of two parallel, outwardly projecting inner link  
20 members (31) with the plate (15) secured thereon, and the  
second terminal link segment (32) that is connected thereto is

formed by a preassembled terminal outer link member (33) that  
is connected at one end with the link pin (13) of the second  
terminal link segment (32), projects outwardly on one side of the  
second terminal link segment (32), and has the associated plate  
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and that a chain link member that is disposed across from  
the terminal outer link member (33) is embodied as an outer  
closure link member (20), one end of which can be placed on  
the link pin (13) of the second terminal link segment (32) that  
carries the terminal outer link member (33), and with a link  
member (21) that is preassembled on its other end extends  
10 through both of the outwardly projecting inner link members (31)  
of the first terminal link segment (30) as well as the end of the  
outwardly projecting terminal outer link member (33) of the  
second terminal link segment (32).

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2. Plate Conveyor according to claim 1, characterized in that the successive inner link members (11) and outer link members (12) of only one chain strand (10) are provided with a respective bracket (14) for the connection of an associated plate (15).

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3. Plate conveyor according to claim 1, characterized in that the inner link members (11) and the outer link members (12) of both

of the chain strands (10) that form the sprocket chain are provided with brackets (14) for the connection of the associated plate (15).